

Month 00, 2007

Dear Educator:

We are asking for your input. Every two years, the Regional Educational Laboratory-Northwest conducts a survey of teachers, principals and district superintendents throughout the Northwest. This year, the survey focuses on identifying the kinds of research-based information or "evidence" that will have the greatest value to those in the field working to improve student learning.

This survey is your opportunity to tell policymakers and the research community what the most pressing information needs are for educators and to recommend promising practices that you would like to see evaluated. Your input will help researchers and state and federal policymakers identify and prioritize the research projects that will have the greatest benefit to schools in your state.

Since we are not able to survey every educator, your response will represent many. Therefore your response is critical to our understanding of the information that will be most helpful to educators in your state. The survey will take between 15 and 20 minutes to complete. It will ask you to prioritize research options in 11 areas of educational practice based on the types of information or evidence that will have the greatest benefits to your school or district.

We are asking you to participate in this survey either by completing the paper survey included in this packet, or by completing it online. To complete the survey online, go to http://www.tobedetermined.com, a secure website, and enter the access code found on the first page of the enclosed paper survey. The access code is not a unique identifier. The code identifies your state, school district, and school level (elementary, middle, high school). Responses to this data collection will be used only for statistical purposes. The reports prepared for this study will summarize findings across the sample and will not associate responses with a specific district or individual. We will not provide information that identifies you or your district to anyone outside the study team, except as required by law.

We hope you will choose to complete the survey. Your participation will be helpful to educators throughout the Northwest.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Leffler
Principal Investigator
Regional Needs Assessment Survey
Regional Education Laboratory-Northwest
101 Southwest Main Street, Suite 500
Portland, OR 97204
503-275-9549
lefflerj@nwrel.org

